

**From:** [Rauscher, Jon](#)  
**To:** [Hayes, Mark](#)  
**Cc:** [Webster, Susan](#); [Turner, Philip](#); [Villarreal, Chris](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Air Quality Statement  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 24, 2013 4:50:07 PM

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Mark,

I talked with Susan and she is comfortable if they change the last sentence of the first paragraph to:

TCEQ believes there is no reason to suspect that this dust would be a health concern based on the air quality monitoring to date.

Thanks, Jon

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**From:** Hayes, Mark  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2013 4:30 PM  
**To:** Webster, Susan; Rauscher, Jon  
**Subject:** Fw: Air Quality Statement

This is their new version.

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**From:** David Vansoest  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2013 3:27:27 PM  
**To:** Hayes, Mark  
**Subject:** Re: Air Quality Statement

How is this?

Beginning overnight following the West explosion, TCEQ and EPA began and have continued to monitor the air quality in West, Texas. On April 18, 2013, both TCEQ and EPA measured 5 to 6 parts per million of ammonia for brief periods of time in the area immediately surrounding the fertilizer facility. These levels would be odorous, but would not cause adverse health effects. Ammonia levels moving out from the fertilizer facility into the neighborhood which was excavated were much lower to not detectable. Since April 19th, neither TCEQ nor EPA has monitored anything of note near the facility, nor in the surrounding neighborhood. Residents have raised concerns about dust that may have settled on their belongings. There is no reason to suspect that this dust would be a health concern based on the air quality monitoring to date.

TCEQ's main goal in West is to ensure environmental concerns are assessed and taken into consideration as decisions on-scene are being made. Additionally, TCEQ is overseeing contractor operations in regard to the continuing air quality monitoring and material removal activities. TCEQ will continue its efforts in West during the future removal activities and ongoing recovery efforts.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 24, 2013, at 3:57 PM, "Hayes, Mark" <[hayes.mark@epa.gov](mailto:hayes.mark@epa.gov)> wrote:

No other comments. Only concern is last two sentences of first paragraph. Changing "We" to "TCEQ" is our only recommendation.

Thanks

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**From:** David Vansoest [[david.vansoest@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:david.vansoest@tceq.texas.gov)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2013 2:04 PM

**To:** Hayes, Mark

**Subject:** Fwd: Air Quality Statement

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** David Vansoest <[david.vansoest@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:david.vansoest@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Date:** April 24, 2013, 2:22:56 PM CDT

**To:** "[stephaniea@ci.waco.tx.us](mailto:stephaniea@ci.waco.tx.us)" <[stephaniea@ci.waco.tx.us](mailto:stephaniea@ci.waco.tx.us)>

**Subject:** Air Quality Statement

Beginning overnight following the West explosion, TCEQ and EPA began and have continued to monitor the air quality in West, Texas.

On April 18, 2013, both TCEQ and EPA measured 5 to 6 parts per million of ammonia for brief periods of time in the area immediately surrounding the fertilizer facility. These levels would be odorous, but would not cause adverse health effects. Ammonia levels moving out from the fertilizer facility into the neighborhood which was excavated were much lower to not detectable. Since April 19th, neither TCEQ nor EPA has monitored anything of note near the facility, nor in the surrounding neighborhood. We understand that residents are concerned about dust that may have settled on their belongings. There is no reason to suspect that this dust would be a health concern based on the air quality monitoring to date.

TCEQ's main goal in West is to ensure environmental concerns are assessed and taken into consideration as decisions on-scene are being made. Additionally, TCEQ is overseeing contractor operations in regard to the continuing air quality monitoring and material removal activities. TCEQ will continue its efforts in West during the future removal activities and ongoing recovery efforts.

Sent from my iPhone